

2014 LP National Convention
in Columbus, Ohio



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LP News

The Party of Principle™

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LP influence rises as Democrats' and Republicans' favorability tanks

Poll: 22% of Americans lean libertarian

By Carla Howell
LP Political Director

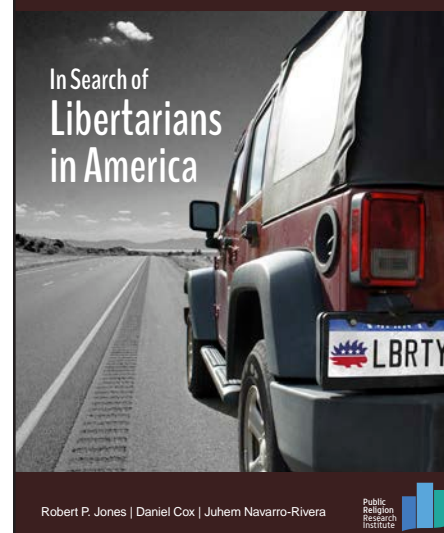
Libertarianism is a growing and influential movement in the United States, say *Time*, the *Washington Post*, the *Atlantic*, the “Stossel” TV show, and NPR in reports on a recent survey.

Nearly one in four Americans lean libertarian, according to a September–October survey conducted by the Public Religion Research Institute, which found that respondents don’t fit on the traditional liberal-to-conservative spectrum.

“The 22 percent of Americans who are consistent libertarians or lean libertarian are fully capable of throwing any election in their direction. That makes them the true wild cards of American politics,” said *Reason* editor Nick Gillespie in an article for *Time*. “Which is a big reason why calling oneself a libertarian — or allowing oneself to be described as such — has become so popular for politicians ...”

When examined from the perspec-

THE 2013 AMERICAN VALUES SURVEY



This poll by the Public Religion Research Institute found that 22 percent of Americans are libertarian or lean toward libertarianism.

tive of individual *issues*, Americans are aligned with Libertarians even more. A majority want less government, less war, lower taxes, and reduced government debt. They disapprove of mass surveil-

lance. They understand the futility of marijuana prohibition and the War on Drugs. They’re angry about government waste and largesse. And they want to be spared the mandates, taxes, restrictions, and high costs of Obamacare.

Young voters and activists are fueling the rising popularity of libertarianism. They are more free-thinking than earlier generations and more disapproving of Big Government. They favor marriage equality. They’re concerned about mounting government debt, the burden of which will lie at their feet. They face daunting student loans while struggling to find well-paying jobs. They’ve seen both Democrats and Republicans instigate war with little to show for the destruction they cause.

Fewer of today’s young voters are trapped inside the box of a two-party system. They’re more open to voting for a third party. When a Libertarian candidate gets sufficient media coverage, as happened in the 2013 Virginia governor’s race, there is a significant rise in

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Breakthrough media coverage, votes mark Sarvis for VA governor campaign

By Carla Howell
LP Political Director

Virginia Libertarian Robert Sarvis was featured or quoted in 311 state and national media news stories during his six-month governor campaign, a breakthrough level of coverage for a non-presidential Libertarian candidate.

Because Bloomberg and others called the 2012 Virginia governor race a harbinger of 2014 elections, could this mean that the media is finally becoming more willing to give Libertarian campaigns their due coverage?

Along with a lot of hard work by Sarvis and his campaign manager, John LaBeaume, the exposure drove up Sarvis’s poll numbers, leaving him just shy of qualifying for the stringent 10 percent

threshold required to participate in the gubernatorial debates.

Despite the exclusion, and despite lacking a get-out-the-vote machine enjoyed by his well-financed opponents — which usually results in Libertarian poll numbers dropping to low single digits as Election Day approaches — Sarvis ended with an impressive 6.5 percent of the vote (145,762 votes). Previously, the highest governor vote in Virginia for a Libertarian was 0.8 percent in 2001.

Sarvis’s vote was the highest for a third-party governor candidate in a southern state in the last 40 years.

It was also the third-highest vote for a Libertarian for governor in the party’s history. In 1982, state representative Dick Randolph won 15 percent of the vote for governor in Alaska. In 2002, Ed Thompson, brother of George W. Bush cabinet member and

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CHAIR'S CORNER

LNC has need for diverse experience

By Geoffrey J. Neale, Chair



In six months, the delegates of the Libertarian Party affiliates from across the country will meet in Columbus, Ohio, to conduct business at the Libertarian Party National Convention.

One of the major agenda items for every convention is the election of the Libertarian National Committee — the LNC.

The LNC is our Board of Directors, and is charged with responsibility for the Libertarian Party between conventions. Membership on the LNC is open to all sustaining members. All you have to do is get elected.

I welcome and promote all people who are interested in being a member of the LNC to pursue that interest. As libertarians, we should all value competition, and I like to see as many qualified candidates as possible for every role.

But I don't want you to make an uninformed decision.

The LNC meets three or four times per year, in diverse locations within the United States. Our meetings are usually two days long, and are held on weekends.

All LNC members pay their own way to the meetings, pay for their own lodging, and pay for almost all of their own meals. It's expensive to be on the LNC. I'd estimate that it costs the average LNC member in the range of \$5,000 per term.

In between, we have discussion groups where we conduct some business, but mostly discuss or debate.

Most of our duties are truly board-level types of responsibilities. We perform many administrative roles. We review contracts. We make policy decisions. We approve budgets. We perform oversight over staff.

We do not set or change the platform or the bylaws. That role is reserved for the delegates in convention. We do review publications to ensure that they conform with our platform and bylaws.

There is an ongoing need for all types of people on the

LNC. No specific prior experience is required, but all sorts of experience are valuable. We can only be strengthened by a diverse talent pool. If you've run a company, or run a campaign, you can be valuable. If you work with computers, or work with people, you can be valuable.

However, four specific experiences come to mind that I truly wish we had in more quantity.

Experience at raising money: As a not-for-profit organization, we rely on the donations from our members to fulfill the LP mission statement.

Experience at working effectively in large groups: The best boards work at reaching consensus wherever possible. Sometimes, this requires accommodating different perspectives while not compromising our core principles.

Experience at being on a board: If you've never sat on a board, there is much to learn. Most people pick it up, but those who come ready and prepared have an advantage. Many on the LNC have often mentioned board training for LNC members, so it should be obvious that such experience is valuable.

Experience at reading financial reports: Yes, we read things like balance sheets and income statements, and we're responsible for budgets.

The right candidates might come without any of those experiences, and learn as they go. Many of our LNC members have. However, arriving with one or more of these experiences will help you.

If you're still interested, I suggest you read the bylaws and the policy manual. That is the world you would be stepping into.

The LP needs a strong LNC. Perhaps you'd be a strong addition.

The following individuals became Lifetime Members of the Libertarian Party between Sept. 12, 2013, and Dec. 5, 2013:

Paul A. Brown
Robert M. Clark
Alan Clifton
Delor Cornell
Edward G. Fayle
Daniel Hopkins
Kurt G. Horvat
Frank Kassela
Ann Loudermilk
Eduardo J. Martinez
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Bryan Pauze
Christopher Richter
Roland Flattum Riemers
Pat E. Ryan
Dr. Curry B. Taylor
Dustin D. Trammell
Ronald Van Wagenen
Brian Keith Waters
John Charles Williams

The Libertarian Party grants Lifetime Membership to individuals who contribute at least \$1,000 during any 12-month period. Call 202-333-0008 to find out how much more you would need to donate to become a Lifetime Member today.

LPNews

The Purposes of the Libertarian Party:

The party is organized to implement and give voice to the principles embodied in the Statement of Principles by: functioning as a libertarian political entity separate and distinct from all other political parties or movements; moving public policy in a libertarian direction by building a political party that elects Libertarians to public office; chartering affiliate parties throughout the United States and promoting their growth and activities; nominating candidates for president and vice president of the United States, and supporting party and affiliate party candidates for political office; and, entering into public information activities.

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Former GOP lawmaker Charles Earl runs for Libertarian governor in Ohio

By Carla Howell

Charles Earl, a former Republican representative in the Ohio General Assembly who switched his party affiliation to Libertarian in 2010, is running for governor in Ohio in 2014 to advance personal freedom and constitutional government.

A true fiscal conservative, Earl decided to run for governor after Republican Gov. John Kasich supported Medicaid expansion and a new tax for oil and gas companies.

The *Cleveland Plain Dealer* reported that tea party outrage could mobilize the grassroots movement behind a Libertarian for governor.

Earl is running on a bold platform to cut taxes. He told the *Sandusky Register*, "We aim to reduce business and corporate taxes to 'zero.' Therefore, no large corporate entity will receive favored treatment via the tax code. All businesses of all sizes will have equal competitive statures under our plan."

"With the anticipated increase in economic activity, we plan to reduce the personal income



Charles Earl

tax to 'zero' as well," he said. "It is immoral and unconscionable for government to benefit from a person's labor."

Earl is not concerned if his race results in tipping the election to the Democratic candidate, Ed FitzGerald.

"So what?" Earl told the *Dealer*. "If they can't trust the GOP-controlled House and Senate to hold FitzGerald in check, then they've elected the wrong General Assembly."

Charles Earl served as the representative for the 80th District of the Ohio House from 1981 to 1984 and chose not to seek re-election. A writer and retired college instructor, he also ran as a Libertarian for secretary of state in 2010.

LP fights against ballot access attack

Getting on the ballot in 2014 is no guarantee for Earl. Ohio Democratic and Republican law-

continued on page 13...

Arizona LP thwarts 'anti-ballot' bill with coalition

A law that would effectively take Arizona Libertarian Party candidates off the ballot was defeated in October 2013, thanks to a multi-partisan coalition to collect signatures, and will not be in effect in 2014. Its future will be decided by voters in the November 2014 general election.

The Arizona Libertarian Party opposed S.B. 2305 because it changed the number of signatures required to get a candidate on a primary ballot from a percentage of the people registered in the party to a percentage of everyone — and shrunk requirements for Republicans.

"It raised our signature requirements dramatically, sometimes as much as 4,000 percent," explained Richard Winger, Libertarian Party activist and editor and publisher of *Ballot Access News*.

"We put together the most diverse coalition in the history of Arizona," said Arizona LP Vice Chair Barry Hess. "Literally, everybody except the Republicans wanted to join our group."

Winger said that part of the strategy was that Libertarians would be the "poster children" for the effort, because they were the ones being "de facto kicked off the ballot." Democrats were in it because the bill also changed rules for collecting early ballots.

According to Hess, the Democrats provided the "muscle and the steam" to get the necessary 86,405 good signatures to refer the issue to the ballot. The last successful signature drive, according to Phoenix-based *Verde News*, took place in 1998. Democrats put \$500,000 into the 2013 effort, according to Hess.

Not only did they turn in more than the necessary amount of signatures, but they verified each one and turned in a grand total of 139,161 signatures, according to reports. However, almost 19 percent of those signatures were proved to be invalid, the secretary of state's office reportedly said in October, bringing the total number of valid signatures down to 113,583.

"Only at that time did the Republicans realize how bad it was," Hess explained, adding that before their success the Arizona GOP didn't think they were going to pull it off.

Hess said that one of the 16 people who signed the original bill called and invited him to his office. "He would introduce legislation, is what they were offering, to repeal that portion that we, the Libertarians, were offended by because they realized that we have the issue that will win the day," Hess declined the offer. "I told him, 'no we'd rather take it from you than have you give it to us,'" adding that he wanted a total repeal of the bill.

"We put together the most diverse coalition in the history of Arizona," said Arizona LP Vice Chair Barry Hess. "Literally, everybody except the Republicans wanted to join our group."

Hess thinks that a total repeal is "probably what's going to happen," and believes the Republicans will repeal the entire bill before it hits the ballot in November. Winger said that it's 11 months away, and way too early to tell.

Voters will have the opportunity to repeal the entire law in fall 2014.

Hess said that for the Libertarian side it was very easy to persuade people to join the cause.

"Do you want diversity of choice on your ballot?" Hess asked. "Or do you just want a Republican and a Democrat to choose from?"

He continued, "Many of them [voters] wanted libertarian ideas."

When asked if the Democrats used the Libertarian Party, Hess said "Well, hell yeah." But he explained: "We each used our strengths, and our strengths were that we had the moral issue that was going to win the day and pulled all these people together. So, yes, they used us but I don't think anything other than a political way which is totally standard," Hess said. "Because in all honesty, we used them to the tune of a half a million bucks."

He added that without the Democrats, he doesn't know whether the Arizona LP would have been able to complete the signature drive successfully. On the flip side, there were two opposition political action committees dedicated to defeating the effort to get 87,000 signatures, Hess said.

Libertarian Party members went on television and to picnics, held debates, gave speeches, organized press conferences, and participated in reporter interviews to spread publicity about the issue. Regular LP activists and staffers helped collect the signatures over the summer.

Winger said getting the voters to vote to repeal it would be the really hard work. It would take money, he pointed out, especially because he expects the Arizona GOP to put up tons of cash for an advertising blitz to defeat the referendum. The Protect Your Right to Vote Committee, independent of the Libertarian Party, has been set up to defeat the bill.

LP Chair Neale tours Libertarian parties in Europe, Russia

By Carla Howell

LP Chair Geoffrey Neale made an historic trip in November to meet with European libertarian leaders from Spain, Russia, the U.K., Italy, Germany, and the Netherlands.

His trip coincided with the emergence of a new pan-European party, the European Party for International Liberty (EPIL), which aims to advance libertarian policy in the European Union and in member countries.

On Sept. 28 in the Netherlands, Libertarian representatives from France, Germany, Holland, and Spain formed EPIL with the signing of the Utrecht Declaration and Covenant of European Classical Liberal and Libertarian Parties.

EPIL's second official meeting was held at a conference hosted by the Spanish Libertarian Party, which goes by the name Individual Freedom Party (P-LIB) and which featured a presentation by Neale.

Neale also addressed attendees of the Fifth Adam Smith Forum in Moscow, which hosted libertarians from more than 20 regions of the Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS), including Russia, Belarus, Tajikistan, and the Ukraine.

Guy Montrose, chairman of the United Kingdom Libertarian Party (LPUK), Andrey Shalnev, chair of the Libertarian Party of Russia (LPR), and Juan Pina, president of P-LIB, responded to questions from *LP News* about Neale's visit.

LP News: Did Chair Neale's visit provide insights into how to advance your country's Libertarian Party?

P-LIB: Yes indeed. His speech allowed P-LIB members to better understand that a political party, [even] without representation in parliament, can be an effective way to advance our ideas. We also appreciated his emphasis on the importance of organizing ourselves to overcome legal barriers to third parties, no matter how bureaucratic and unfriendly the system is.

LPR: Lots of libertarian ideas have been brought into life in the U.S.A. That is why the opportunity to talk to a U.S. libertarian was so inspiring, and also edifying. The experience imparted by Chair Neale with regard to building a political organization will especially come in handy, despite all the differences between the present-day political environments in our respective countries.



LP Chair Geoffrey Neale speaks to Spain's Individual Freedom Party (P-LIB).

LP News: Were there any other benefits you or your organization experienced from having the head of the U.S. Libertarian Party visit your country?

LPR: Geoffrey Neale's visit has helped us to ratchet up our organizational performance. Cooperation with foreign partners helps to bring a political party into the spotlight and gives it more political weight.

P-LIB: Yes. We got some media attention in spite of the existing anti-libertarian blockade. We strengthened the cohesion of our organization. Party leaders in over 10 regions and provinces came to Madrid, in the middle of the week, for this event. We were able to organize a second meeting of EPIL thanks to this event. Representatives from three other countries came to Madrid.

LP News: Are you pleased with the participation of libertarians in your country at your event?

LPR: It was definitely the [best attended] libertarian get-together in the CIS, ever. We had libertarians from over 20 regions of Russia, from Belarus, Tajikistan, Ukraine, and other CIS countries.

P-LIB: Pleased is not enough. We are delighted, we welcome it, and we need it. We would like to sign a general agreement on mutual recognition and cooperation at some point.

LP News: What did participants at your event say about Neale's visit?

LPR: Listening to Geoffrey Neale's views on American politics gave them quite a bit of a shakeup because what he said sat oddly with the clichéd perceptions of quite a few opposition-minded Russians, many of whom believe that whatever happens in U.S.A. politics should be accepted without reservations, leaving no place for criticism whatsoever.

UKLP: His presentation was highly informative, educational, and inspirational.

P-LIB: Everyone was really pleased. His speech was inspiring. It is important to understand that, while libertarianism is already almost a mainstream option in the U.S., it is still unknown and not very respected here. Our members are isolated in their daily lives, and they find relief and confirmation of their views when they come to our meetings. Having the leader of a U.S. party come to Madrid and tell them they are right and we are the future, not the past, was extremely important to them.

LP News: What problems and challenges for your party did you gain insight into as a result of Neale's remarks?

LPR: First and foremost, it was challenges related to attracting soft money, because in Russia we're only just cutting our fundraising teeth.

UKLP: Firstly, we are up against a state-indoctrinated electorate, many of whom find the very concept of libertarianism alien. Geoff Neale made the point that Rome was not built in a day. In effect, we are sowing the seeds of LPUK today, to bear fruit tomorrow.

Secondly, we need to box clever. We do not enjoy the resources of our bigger rivals so we have to think creatively of ways to outmaneuver them. Geoff Neale [noted that for advertising strategy] it is advantageous not to try to go head to head with multimillion campaigns, but actually to wait for down times to gain more impact.

P-LIB: We got valuable confirmation that a third party, and NOT joining one of the authoritarian parties for pragmatic reasons, is the way ahead. This is what we had always been saying, and it is important to hear that from the original Libertarian Party, the oldest one in the world and the one inspiring our foundation in 2009.

LP News: Was there anything you learned about U.S. Libertarian politics that surprised you?

P-LIB: A positive surprise to many of our members was to discover the very large amount of votes received by the LP.

LP News: Did the event help to catalyze your plans moving forward?

LPR: Yes, certainly. Geoffrey Neale's visit helped us to, among other things, gain recognition among libertarian parties from other countries. We'll soon

come up with cooperation proposals and hopefully will be able to manage some joint events, as well as a visit to the U.S.

UKLP: We are running candidates in the next U.K. local elections. Many of Neale's points were very relevant to those campaigns.

P-LIB: We certainly would like to move in the direction of creating well-functioning European and international umbrella organizations for libertarians [and to be seen as] our country's representative of a world ideological movement. Socialists and conservatives have such organizations. We shall certainly continue to develop the European umbrella and make it worthy of transatlantic cooperation, while also strengthening our party in Spain.

LP News: What do you see as possible for the future of your party?

LPR: The LPR is looking forward to getting seriously involved in the 2014 regional elections to the Moscow City Duma (parliament) and other city councils. This is going to be the first major campaign for the LPR. We're getting ready for a broad outreach campaign involving small and medium-sized forums and conferences across the whole expanse of Russia.

UKLP: We would like to become a major player and option for future generations of U.K. voters.

P-LIB: Our main short-term goal is getting through the enormous barriers to run at the European Parliament Elections in May. We need 15,000 valid signatures from registered voters for this. It is likely but still uncertain that we shall be successful.

LP News: Do you plan to build active working relationships with other European Libertarian parties?

LPR: Yes, we believe that libertarians from all over the world should be constantly sharing their experience of promoting ideas of liberty. We libertarians have a huge advantage over other political movements in that there is a consensus as far as our underlying principles are concerned. That means we're much better off in terms of mutual understanding and building working relationships. We'd gladly contribute to and become part of an international libertarian association bringing together libertarian parties from all over the world.

UKLP: This is already taking place and part of joint initiatives.

Plan now to attend June 2014 LP national convention in Columbus, OH

By Nancy Neale
LP National Convention Organizer

In the last issue of *LP News*, you read a column by my fellow CMC member, Kevin Knedler, the state chair of the Ohio LP. LP activity in the Buckeye State is very impressive, and we are excited that our next convention will be in Ohio.

Although 2014 is not a presidential year, we promise that you will have a wonderful time in Columbus this summer, from Thursday, June 26, through Sunday, June 29. Our bylaws require us to hold a convention every two years for delegates to conduct business. I see this as an opportunity to gather as many Libertarians as possible together for one long weekend, not just to conduct party business but to meet each other and exchange ideas, and have some fun!

Besides the business sessions for credentialed delegates* (on the Main Floor), there will be many great speakers, with top speakers at the various meal events, plus a few good ones on the Main Floor. And some excellent entertainment.

Some of the usual topics will be covered, like the drug war and Second Amendment issues. The hotter topics of the day we hope to cover will include NSA spying, Obamacare, and global warming (er, climate change). We will also feature some dynamic LP candidates. Lots of new speakers (and, yes, we are trying to get some biggies!)

The theme of this convention will be "Character Matters." I was inspired by a talk and a small book by Lawrence Reed of FEE. His book, titled *Are We Good Enough for Liberty?*, focuses on character. It hit me that



Downtown Columbus, Ohio

the thing that we Libertarians have that most of the D's and R's don't have is character. The term encompasses attributes like honorable, trustworthy, reputable, ethical, moral, and courageous. Liberty requires that we possess these traits. Or, as Reed writes, "no people who lost their character kept their liberties." Larry Reed has graciously agreed to be our keynote speaker!

True, some of us don't always act in keeping with the best character, but that should be our goal — as candidates and other representatives of the LP — to show people that we are worthy of their time, support, and votes. My hope is that the delegates and other attendees will show good character to one another and to everyone we encounter — during the convention and beyond.

One reason that society has lost its way is the sad state of our public schools; character does not seem to matter so much anymore. So I also want to focus on youth

and education. I am encouraged by the work of many families who embrace a better way to raise and educate their children. I am also encouraged by the activism being done by groups such as Students for Liberty. (Their executive director, Alexander McCobin, spoke for us in Las Vegas in 2012, and has frequently been on "Stossel.")

Our national chairman (yes, my spouse) recently went to Europe, thanks to a generous benefactor. He spoke at libertarian forums in Moscow and Madrid, which included activists from all over Europe. Some of them were so inspired by meeting the head of the U.S. LP that they want to come to Columbus — even on their own dime! So expect to hear and meet some of our European brethren there.

Mark your calendars and start making your travel plans. Spend a few extra days before or afterward, and experience what Columbus and the Buckeye State have to offer. One great thing about this location is its proximity to a very large portion of our membership — a reasonable drive for most of you. The venue is the Columbus Hyatt Regency, right in the heart of downtown Columbus.

Please visit LP.org for a link to the 2014 convention site, and contact me if you have any specific suggestions: nancy@lp.org. I look forward to seeing you!

* If you plan to be a credentialed delegate, be sure that you follow the procedures of your state and county LPs.

Nancy Neale helped organize the 2012 Las Vegas LP convention, and was the primary organizer of the highly touted 2004 Atlanta convention. She has also organized several state LP conventions, in Texas and her native California.

North Dakota LP Chair Roland Riemers recruits candidates for 2014 election, runs for secretary of state

The Libertarian Party of North Dakota has already announced two high-profile candidates for the 2014 election, and state chair Roland Riemers hopes to put together a full slate of Libertarians campaigning on solutions to cut government spending and power.

"We're hoping that we'll have all of our candidate slots filled up this year," Riemers said. "By starting early, it gave us an opportunity to get our funding together a little bit, which helps us tremendously."

Libertarian Jack Seaman is running for U.S. Congress on a platform of slashing spending and passing a balanced budget, eliminating the IRS, ending mass surveillance, bringing all troops home from wars of foreign intervention, decisively halting the War on Drugs, repealing Obamacare, supporting Second Amendment rights, abolishing the Federal Reserve, and more.

"If you like my message of slashing spending, abolishing the IRS, ending the Fed, bringing the troops home and ending



Roland Riemers



Jack Seaman

America's empire building, restoring the 4th Amendment, ending the failed war on drugs, marriage equality and getting government out of our lives as much as possible, I ask for your help in spreading the word," Seaman wrote on his campaign website.

Riemers is running for North Dakota secretary of state and continuing to fill his role as state LP chair by recruiting additional candidates who share Seaman's ambitious plans to cut government across the board. Filling every available space on the ballot with a Libertarian Party candidate is a priority for Riemers and the LPND, because that's ultimately how the party

builds awareness and support.

"Every time you get a candidate on the ballot, that candidate brings a certain number of voters with it, too," Riemers said. "The more candidates you get, the more votes you get. That's the name of the game: Get the votes."

One of Riemer's strategies for recruiting candidates is stressing the importance of showing up to the political process, even for those who may not have the ability to run full-time campaigns.

"A lot of people can't commit to a lot of time and money in running a campaign," Riemers said. "Probably the big emphasis is to get them to run regardless, because even if they can just show up to some of the candidate forums and answer some of the newspapers when they send out the candidate survey, it all helps the party. So even if they're working two jobs and don't have a lot of time and resources, they can still be a help to the party just by having their name in there and being in-

involved even to a minor extent."

This is also where advance planning and organization by the state party can yield dividends, Riemers pointed out.

"One of the things we tried in the last election, is that not only do we have candidates who have their own individual literature and program, but we have standard statewide literature that listed all the candidates and everybody could pass it out," Riemers said. "The state party paid for that, so even if a local candidate didn't have that much money for his own literature, he could get the common literature and pass that out and still be involved without spending a lot of money on it."

Donations make all the difference in this process, he said.

"I think one of the big factors too is fundraising, which is always a perennial problem," Riemers said. "Money always counts. We've been trying different tactics for raising funds, so that when we do

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2013 election results for Libertarian Party candidates

Libertarian Party candidates who won their respective elections are indicated by boldface

Name	Position	Vote Total	Percentage	Name	Position	Vote Total	Percentage
<u>Election Date: March 12</u>							
<u>New Hampshire</u>				Bill Russell	Mayor, Norwich	386	8.6%
Joe Femino	Gofftown Zoning Board of Adjustments	541	16.5%	Chandler Alfred, Jr.	Norwich Councilman	445	2.2%
<u>Election Date: April 2</u>				Julia Ann Gorman	Norwich Councilman	669	3.3%
<u>Kansas</u>				Michael Holman	Norwich Councilman	537	2.6%
Dan Hogan	Manhattan City Council	719	4.5%	Axel Rodriguez	Norwich Councilman	614	3.0%
Michael Ogle	Topeka Mayor	3,714	31.8%	Cynthia Shook	Norwich Councilman	603	2.9%
Clinton Coen	Wichita City Council District 3	814	46.4%	Joshua Katz	Westbrook Planning Commission	1,074	37.4%
<u>Election Date: April 9</u>				<u>Florida</u>			
<u>Florida</u>				Marcos Miralles	Hialeah City Council	3,964	23.8%
Michael Malterer	New Port Richey Council	240	12.2%	<u>Georgia</u>			
<u>Illinois</u>				Karen Richardson	Johns Creek City Council	1,973	31.3%
Lex Green	Bloomington Mayor	1,246	12.8%	Brett Bittner	Marietta School Board District 1	156	56.5%
Chad Grimm	Peoria City Council District 3	270	18.8%	Walter Reynolds	Milledgeville City Council District 4	unopposed	
<u>New York</u>				<u>Iowa</u>			
Bruce Martin	Longwood Library Trustee			Nick Taiber	Cedar Falls City Council	unopposed	
<u>Election Date: May 10</u>				Roger Fritz	Mayor, Roland	11	22.5%
<u>Texas</u>				<u>Michigan</u>			
Jamie Perez	El Paso Mayor	816	1.7%	Andy LeCureaux	Hazel Park City Council	n/a	n/a
Arthur Thomas IV	San Antonio City Council Place 10	5800	12.0%	Erwin Haas	Kentwood City Commissioner Ward 2	1,105	51.6%
<u>Election Date: May 21</u>				<u>Minnesota</u>			
<u>Arizona</u>				Zavier Bicott	Bloomington City Council	3,188	26.0%
Levi Tappan	Page City Council			Mary O'Connor	Brooklyn Center School Board	35	7.1%
<u>New York</u>				Christopher Clark	Mayor, Minneapolis	188	0.2%
Halen Allison	Avoca School Board	40	12.3%	Joel Brinker	Mayor, St. Peters	439	38.0%
<u>Pennsylvania</u>				Michael Katch	Minneapolis City Council, Ward 3	363	5.9%
George Brown	State House 42 (special election)	539	5.4%	Shaun Alexander	Savage City Council	457	20.1%
<u>Election Date: June 4</u>				Jeremy Seykora	Savage City Council	369	16.2%
<u>Missouri</u>				Roger Parras	St. Peters City Council	392	40.1%
Bill Slantz	US House 8 (special election)	968	1.5%	<u>North Carolina</u>			
<u>Election Date: August 6</u>				Terrence Tucker	Benson Town Commissioner At-large	49	10.3%
<u>Michigan</u>				Travis Wheat	Charlotte City Council District 3	443	4.6%
Scotty Boman	Detroit Clerk	4,461	5.1%	Eric Cable	Charlotte City Council District 4	7,579	2.1%
Michael Brennan	Livingston County Commissioner District 5	176	8.7%	Thorbjorn Gylafson	Greenville City Council District 3		
<u>Election Date: October 1</u>				Matt Hoerner	Hope Mills Commissioner	569	10.8%
<u>Alaska</u>				Matt Hoerner	Hope Mills Town Council	551	10.8%
Dave Lyle	Valdez City Council	16	0.1%	Andrea Boyer	Woodfin Alderman	179	15.3%
<u>South Carolina</u>				<u>New Jersey</u>			
Alex Thornton	State Senate 42 (special election)	98	1.2%	Ken Kaplan	Governor	11,821	0.6%
<u>Election Date: October 15</u>				Sean O'Connor	State Assembly 14	888	0.7%
<u>Nebraska</u>				Steve Uccio	State Assembly 14	772	0.6%
Mike Knebel	Bellevue City Council District 1	41	4.3%	Patrick McKnight	State Assembly 16	1,175	1.0%
<u>Election Date: October 19</u>				Don Dezarn	State Senate 14	1,001	1.6%
<u>Louisiana</u>				<u>New York</u>			
Henry Herford	US House 5 (special election)	886	0.9%	Robert Porter	Albany City Council District 9	217	16.6%
Gregory King	Lincoln Parish Justice Of The Peace, Ward 3	unopposed		James Rosenbeck	Batavia City Council At-Large	358	5.5%
<u>Connecticut</u>				Lisa Whitehead	Batavia City Council At-Large	243	3.7%
Sean Foley	Burlington Board Of Finance	1,028	19.0%	Robert Brown	Genesee County Legislator 8th District	82	12.5%
<u>Election Date: November 5</u>				David Casavis	Manhattan Borough President	39,413	17.1%
				Hesham El-Meligy	New York City Comptroller	5,080	0.5%
				Helene Janane	New York City Council District 4	8,213	29.8%
				David Garland	New York City Council District 5	9,951	33.2%
				Christopher Giattino	New York City Council District 8	124	0.8%
				Michael Sanchez	New York City Mayor	1,652	0.2%
				Alex Merced	New York City Public Advocate	9,878	1.1%
				Silas Johnson	Staten Island Borough President	331	0.5%
				<u>Pennsylvania</u>			
				Anthon Muccie	Bristol Borough Council North Ward	98	21.7%
				Eric Sokalski	Bristol Borough Council South Ward	144	32.8%
				Jason Grisolia	Bristol Borough Council West Ward	123	31.8%
				Nicholas Hillman	Bucks County Judge Of Elections Warminster District 4		(unavailable)
				Mamie Barker	Bucks County Judge Of Elections Warminster District 4		(unavailable)
				Dominic Hughes	Bucks County Judge Of Elections Warminster District 4		(unavailable)
				Alexander Humanick	Copley Borough Council	242	10.6%
				Shawn Felty	Cressona Borough Council	195	34.5%
				Hobson McKown	District Judge 49-2-01, Centre County (write-in)		(unavailable)
				Matt Schutter	Jim Thorpe School Director	547	28.3%
				Steven Miller-Miller	Judge of the Court of Common Pleas District 1	7,768	1.4%
				Betsy Summers	Luzerne County Judge of Elections Wilkes-Barre W9	64	99.9%

continued on page 8...

Essential budget data needed to make case for shrinking government

By Carla Howell

Government regulations, the IRS, the War on Drugs, overseas meddling, Obamacare, and virtually all Big Government programs owe their existence to the funding that pays for their operations.

To persuasively argue for the elimination or reduction of government programs, Libertarian candidates must know the total amount of money government spends in the jurisdictions where they seek office, how much has been allocated for various departments, and where the money comes from. It is also helpful to have examples of government waste within those departments.

With key government budget data at their fingertips, Libertarian candidates can formulate solutions for less government and sell those proposals effectively. For example:

- Knowing how much a government function or department spends every year helps make the case for eliminating it and cutting taxes accordingly.
- Citing government waste within departments supports the case for eliminating or reducing them, along with more tax cuts.
- Showing the explosive growth in a government's annual spending makes it easy to propose rolling it back to the year 2006, 2000, 1990, or earlier.
- Revealing the relatively small amounts spent on police, fire, and roads belies the constant threats from Big Government politicians who claim that spending cuts will harm these core government services.
- Citing the egregious sums spent on government employee and retiree benefits makes the case for bringing them in line with private-sector worker benefits.
- Contrasting the zero dollars that poli-

1. Prepare to be frustrated. Government finance is notoriously opaque. Published data serves more to sell the virtues of government and to conceal high government spending than to inform the public. Various published versions of a budget may be impossible to reconcile.

2. Focus on revenue and spending for the current year, not future years. Big Government politicians like to talk about "10-year budgets" to propose phony spending cuts that are actually spending increases. To actually reduce the size of government, Libertarians need to bring the focus back to current-year spending.

3. Beware of budgets expressed as percentages of gross domestic product (GDP) or percentage increases over prior years. This is another diversion tactic. Look for budgets that show actual dollar amounts.

4. Nice-sounding names of budget line items such as "Protecting the Public's Health" tell you nothing about how the money allocated to this function is actually spent, how much is wasted, or whether any of it actually "protects" anyone.

5. State and local government Comprehensive Annual Financial Reports (CAFRs) account for actual spending and revenue for prior fiscal years. They are more comprehensive than general budgets, which may disclose only a fraction of total state revenue and spending. They are also fixed, unlike current-year budgets which change throughout the year as legislators vote on new spending.

6. The U.S. Census Bureau publishes government financial data for prior years that provides more data than some state and local budgets. However, their spreadsheets are poorly written. Data within them sometimes cannot be reconciled.

7. Published government budgets reveal nothing about where the government waste is. A better source is mainstream news or blog articles, which provide anecdotal data, as well as select white papers published by think tanks. By making a habit of collecting such data and compiling it in a list, candidates can cite these examples when asked the question, "Where do you propose to cut government spending?"

ticians have saved for private sector workers who are dependent on Social Security with the tens of billions of dollars accumulated in funds for federal, state and local government retirement plans further illustrates the gross inequity between government and private-sector compensation and why handing out lucrative government worker retirement packages must end.

There's only one federal government, so it's relatively easy for federal candidates to gather essential financial data on the U.S. government. Many websites show a breakdown of federal revenue and expenditures and other financial data.

For down-ticket candidates, the task is more challenging. There are thousands of state and local governments. Their financial structures vary, as do how and where they publish data.

Campaign volunteers and LP affiliates can help state and local candidates by researching and assembling key financial data needed for their campaigns.

Tips on researching government budgets

NJ Government Finance Highlights

(in \$ billions)

FY2011 Revenue		State	Local	FY2011 Expenditures		State	Local
Key Taxes				Medical subsidies		\$3.3	\$0.8
Property			\$25.5	Housing subsidies		0.5	1.1
Individual income		\$10.6		Other welfare		13.2	1.2
General sales		8.1		Employee retirement		8.2	
Selective sales		4.4	0.1	Unemployment compensation		7.2	
Corporate income		2.2		Higher education		4.3	1.4
Higher ed institutions		2.6	0.7	Elementary & secondary		2.3	21.1
Sewerage			1.6	Highways		3.0	1.3
Hospitals		0.9	0.3	Transit		2.1	0.1
Highways		1.1	0.3	Interest on general debt		2.1	1.4
Unemployment comp.		4.2		Correction		1.4	0.7
Employee retirement trust		13.2		Judicial and legal		0.9	0.6
Interest earnings		1.2	0.4	Sewerage			1.6
Other		7.5	5.1	Police		0.5	2.8
Total generated revenue		\$56.0	\$34.0	Fire			0.9
Intergovernmental transfers				Water and electric utilities			1.2
From federal government		\$14.2	\$1.1	Other		6.8	9.2
From state government			11.3	Transfers between state, local		11.2	0.4
From local governments		0.6		Total expenditures		\$67.0	\$45.8
Total revenue		\$70.8	\$46.4				
Total state & local revenue net intergovernmental, plus federal:		\$105.3		Total state & local expenditures net intergovernmental:		\$101.2	

NJ state & local spending per household
FY2011 \$32,057 FY2014 * \$36,641

	State	Local	Total
FY2012 government debt	\$64	\$38	\$102 (billions)
FY2012 govt. debt per household			\$32,067

	State	Local	Total
State-owned financial assets			
Employee retirement funds	74		74
Other funds	41	16	57
Total	\$115	\$16	\$131 (billions)

Sources:

State of NJ Governor's FY 2012 Budget Budget Summary.

U.S. Census 2010.

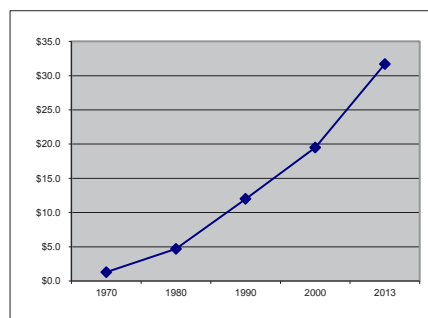
NJBiz, "N.J. has fourth-highest debt among states," Aug. 28, 2012.

* Based on governor's projected three-year revenue growth of 14.3 percent.

Growth in New Jersey State Spending

Appropriations Act Spending
(does not include off-budget spending)

Fiscal Year	Revenue (in billions)
1970	\$1.3
1980	\$4.7
1990	\$12.0
2000	\$19.5
2013	\$31.7



Source:

New Jersey's Citizens' Guide to the Budget Fiscal Year 2012-2013

<http://www.nj.gov/treasury/omb/publications/13citizensguide/pdf/citguide.pdf>

Marijuana, pension reform, minimum wage, ballot access top subjects of ballot measures

By Carla Howell

In the November 2013 election, voters eliminated penalties for adult possession of marijuana in Portland, Maine and in three cities in Michigan (Lansing, Jackson, and Ferndale), while Coloradans, who approved a measure in 2012 to legalize recreational marijuana, voted to tax it.

A measure to contain city government pensions lost decisively in Cincinnati, Ohio, while another won overwhelmingly in Hialeah, Fla.

Measures that force employers to increase wages won in New Jersey and in SeaTac, Washington.

In 2014, voters may see more ballot measures on marijuana, guns, Obamacare, ballot access, and minimum wage.

Proponents of medical marijuana or marijuana legalization are expected to place measures on the ballot in Florida, Alaska, Arkansas, and Oregon.

In Arizona, a key referendum to repeal a Republican-led law that severely restricts ballot access has already qualified for the November ballot.

In Montana, voters will decide on a Top Two Primary measure, also driven by Republicans, which if passed would exclude Libertarians from the general ballot.

Voters in Washington may see measures that both expand and reduce gun rights.

North Dakota voters will likely see measures to establish a conservation fund, outlaw abortion, restrict initiatives that appropriate tax dollars, and ban real estate transaction taxes.

Key measures from the November 2013 ballot		
Portland, Maine	Remove penalties for adult marijuana possession (up to 2.5 ounces)	Passed
Colorado	Tax marijuana (legalization of recreational marijuana passed in 2012)	Passed
Lansing, Mich.	Remove penalties for adult marijuana possession	Passed
Jackson Mich.	Remove penalties for adult marijuana possession	Passed
Ferndale, Mich.	Remove penalties for adult marijuana possession	Passed
Albuquerque, N.M.	Ban Late Term Abortion	Defeated
Cincinnati, Ohio	Convert city workers' pension from defined benefit to defined contribution plan	Defeated
New Jersey	Hike minimum wage	Passed
SeaTac, Wash.	Hike minimum wage	Passed
Hialeah, Fla.	Downsize future elected officials' pensions	Passed

These initiatives and referenda are expected to be on the 2014 ballot	
Arizona	Referendum to repeal Republican-led law that severely restricts ballot access.
South Dakota	Nullify Obamacare
Florida	Legalize medical marijuana
Washington	Pro-Gun Rights
Washington	Anti-Gun Rights
Alaska	Legalize marijuana (August election)
Arkansas	Legalize medical marijuana
North Dakota	Protect initiative process from weakening legislation
Oregon	Marijuana legalization
Massachusetts	Expand state's beverage deposit law to include bottled water and other non-carbonated drinks
Massachusetts	Repeal the state's 2011 casino law, but may need help from the courts. Does this violate a constitutional provision against the taking of personal property?
Massachusetts	Hike minimum wage (Senate passed on Nov. 19)
Alaska	Hike minimum wage
Idaho	Hike minimum wage
Missouri	Hike minimum wage
New Mexico	Hike minimum wage
South Dakota	Hike minimum wage
San Jose, Calif.	Repeal ban on Styrofoam
Montana	Top-two primary measure that would exclude Libertarians from the general ballot

2013 election results for LP candidates

...continued from page 6

Name	Position	Vote Total	Percentage
Mark Cowell	New Hope - Solebury School District	241	8.1%
Niraj Patel	New Hope - Solebury School District	226	7.6%
Howard Sarvin	New Hope - Solebury School District	232	7.8%
Stanley Marcus	New Hope - Solebury School District	237	7.9%
Andy Edmonds	North Codorus Auditor	334	99.9%
Matt Schutter	Penn Forest Township Supervisor	517	96.1%
Bill Mantzell	Pennscrest School District Director	1,134	10.4%
Dave Powell	Pittsburgh City Council 7th District	171	2.3%
Gary Millar	Sellersville Borough Mayor	92	22.7%
Drew Bingaman	Sunbury City Council	298	12.1%
Ryan McDonald	Sunbury Mayor (write-in)	(unavailable)	
Barbara Barbrush	Wheatherly School Director	260	9.7%
Manuel Gomez	York City Council	58	11.7%
David Moser	York Mayor	74	27.5%
Virginia			
Rob Sarvis	Governor	145,430	6.5%

Name	Position	Vote Total	Percentage
Jonathan Parrish	State Assembly 23	5,035	22.4%
Patrick Hagerty	State Assembly 33	871	3.4%
Laura Delhomme	State Assembly 47	5,866	22.3%
Anthony Tellez	State Assembly 53	840	4.2%
Christopher Sullivan	State Assembly 55	1,497	5.5%
Dan Foster	State Assembly 78	888	3.7%
Washington			
Brandon Robinson	Anacortes Council Position #5	742	20.8%
Adam Baldwin	Clark Co. Commissioner Freeholder D2 P5	2,125	16.1%
Eric Olson	Marysville Position #1	1,802	30.3%
Election Date: November 21			
Tennessee			
Jim Tomasik	Stte House 91	369	10.7%
Election Date: December 3			
Georgia			
Karen Richardson	Johns Creek City Council	1,016	33.5%

Libertarians help lead fight to end mass surveillance

While government propagandists try to convince Americans not to worry that the National Security Agency (NSA) is spying on their phone calls, emails, and other private data, a coalition joined by the Libertarian Party last June is turning up the heat, prompting bills in congress to curtail mass surveillance.

The USA Freedom Act has sponsors in both the House and Senate. If passed, it would end the NSA's indiscriminate collection of Americans' personal information and add oversight and transparency to government surveillance programs.

An amendment to the Defense Appropriations bill proposed by Rep. Justin Amash (R-MI) last July nearly passed in the U.S. House, showing a sharp turn in public opinion against the government's mass surveillance. Sen. Ron Wyden (D-OR), who has worked for years to curb the NSA, said to a Cato Institute audience in October, "If you had told me six months or a year ago that you'd get 200 votes on the floor of the House of Representatives, I would have said you were dreaming."

The Libertarian Party was among the first groups to join a broad coalition operating under the umbrella Stop Watching Us, which is represented by more than 100 organizations concerned with government spying. The coalition includes hard left "progressives," libertarians, and groups concerned with privacy such as the Electronic Frontier Foundation and the ACLU.

The Libertarian National Committee voted to endorse Stop Watching Us. National Libertarian Party Political Director Carla Howell and other D.C.-area Libertarians have been meeting with coalition members to organize events and support lobbying efforts since June.

The coalition staged a major rally in D.C. on Oct. 26, the 12th anniversary of the signing of the Patriot Act. A rich lineup of speakers included LP 2012 presidential candidate Gary Johnson, Rep. Amash, former NSA director and whistleblower Thomas Drake, former Rep. Dennis Kucinich, and social critic Naomi Wolf.

"I was pleasantly surprised by how enthusiastically the crowd responded to Gary Johnson's speech," said Wes Benedict, the LP's executive director, who attended the event.

After the event, Naomi Wolf urged Carla Howell to keep her informed of LP candidates who are running to stop the



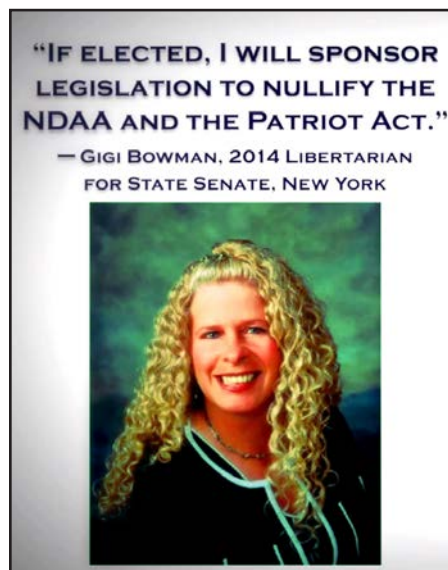
Gary Johnson, 2012 LP presidential candidate, speaks before more than 2,000 activists who gathered to protest mass surveillance at the Stop Watching Us rally on Oct. 26, 2013, in Washington, D.C.

The Libertarian Party lays claim to being the most consistent and vocal advocate for Fourth Amendment rights of any political party in America.

NSA's mass surveillance, which she offered to share with her millions of readers.

The event provoked major media coverage, including articles and columns in the *Washington Post*, *Huffington Post*, *Daily Caller*, *Reuters*, *Breitbart*, C-SPAN, *Guardian*, *Press TV*, *Russia Today*, *PJ Media*, and numerous local and national TV news programs, many of which mentioned the Libertarian Party.

The event also helped to inspire U.S. Rep. Vern Buchanan (R-FL) to cosponsor the USA Freedom Act.



Gigi Bowman was one of several candidates whose pledges to end mass surveillance were featured in a video released at LP.org.

Several days before the rally, the liberal news portal *Salon* posted a blog entry titled, "Don't ally with libertarians: ideologues co-opt an anti-NSA rally." The commentary urged "social democrats" to exclude the Libertarian Party from the event, citing opposition to the LP's position on other issues. But it was met with sharp rebuttals from a variety of media outlets, articulating the hypocrisy of Democrats and their support of the U.S. spy apparatus. Counterarguments were published at media outlets and websites which included antiwar.com, the *Daily Paul*, *Before It's News*, *Mediaite*, *Reason*, *New Republic*, and the Independent Institute, which noted, "If there is any hope in beating back the surveillance state, it will surely require more than a fringe coalition of Democrats."

The Libertarian Party lays claim to being the most consistent and vocal advocate for Fourth Amendment rights of any political party in America. The LP released a video in August which calls for the immediate dismantling of the NSA and repeal of the Patriot Act, the National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA), and the Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Act (FISA). It lists the hundreds of Republicans and Democrats in congress today who have voted for mass surveillance bills, and it showcases LP candidates advocating privacy rights throughout the party's history.

"If ever there were a time when we had a chance to put in place a new surveillance regime which demonstrated to the American people that Ben Franklin was right, it is now," said Sen. Wyden. "He understood you shouldn't give up your liberty for security. We can have both."



Rep. Paul Ryan (R-WI) announced a budget deal on Dec. 10 that keeps spending high. Photo by Gage Skidmore (CC BY-SA 2.0).



LP-issued news release:

Latest federal budget deal screams, 'Vote Libertarian'

President Barack Obama and the Democrats and Republicans in Congress, reeling from low voter-approval ratings, are anxious to cut a budget deal that takes the heat off of both parties yet keeps their special-interest masters content.

"While people are busy preparing for the holidays, now's a great time, they figure, to jam more government overspending and tax increases on the American people, just as they did earlier this year," said Geoffrey J. Neale, chair of the Libertarian Party.

Last January — while Americans were watching New Year's Day parades, cheering for football teams, and recovering from hangovers — Congress passed a bill to hike the Social Security payroll tax, costing the average American taxpayer \$800 every year. In addition, they hiked taxes on estates, incomes, health care, and businesses.

Now leading Democrats and Republicans in the U.S. House, with nods from Senate leaders and the president, have cut a tentative deal to:

- continue to add nearly \$1 trillion yearly to the \$17.2 trillion national debt;
- lock in funding for job-killing, life-threatening Obamacare;
- add another \$60 billion in new federal spending for special interests, including defense contractors and federal government retirees;
- eliminate much of their celebrated

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AFFILIATE News And Events

Affiliate news and events are provided to LP News by Libertarian Party state affiliates.

Arkansas

Ballot drive success for 2014 election

In July, the LPAR began the petitioning process to obtain ballot access for the 2014 general election. On Nov. 1, the Secretary of State verified that the LPAR exceeded the 10,000 valid signature requirement, allowing the party to run candidates in any partisan race in 2014. To retain ballot access for 2016, the Libertarian candidate for governor must receive at least 3 percent of the vote. Chairman Jessica Paxton expects the LPAR to exceed its goal of 50 candidates, more than tripling the number of Arkansas Libertarian candidates in 2012.

Candidate nominations will occur during the party's annual state convention, "Big Liberty, Little Rock," to be held Feb. 21–23 at the Comfort Inn and Suites Downtown Little Rock. Other convention items will include candidate, activism, and affiliate support training; awards; gubernatorial debate; banquet dinner with keynote speaker; two social events; and more. For the first time ever, the party is offering the business and training sessions at no cost to attendees, while meals are available as an optional add-on package. For more information, visit LPAR.org or like "Big Liberty, Little Rock" on Facebook.

Also in November, the LPAR rolled out an entirely redesigned website with a clean, modern design and easy-to-navigate, upgraded features. While the user will find a more pleasant experience at LPAR.org, the party's new CiviCRM is proving to be an asset to the ever-growing LPAR.

Colorado

Events planned for March convention

The Libertarian Party of Colorado will be holding its 2014 state convention, themed "Reclaiming Liberty," the weekend of March 28–30, 2014, at the Denver Marriott West in Golden, Colo. This should prove to be an exciting

weekend, with a "Cocktails with the Candidates" event, general business, many informative seminars, a half-day communications course presented by Sharon Harris of The Advocates for Self-Government, a banquet, and more! Confirmed speakers so far are 2012 LP presidential and vice presidential candidates Gov. Gary Johnson and Judge Jim Gray, Billy Johnson of Amidst the Noise and NRA News, Evan McMahon of the Libertarian National Campaign Committee, and Mark Slaugh of iComply, LLC., with others currently in the works. There will even be a raffle for a ski excursion and lunch with Gov. Johnson! More information, updates, and a link to ticket sales may be found at: LPColorado.org/events/convention

In Colorado election news, Colorado voters overwhelmingly rejected Amendment 66, a billion-dollar income tax hike purportedly to fund education, but unfortunately approved Proposition AA, which imposes hefty excise and sales taxes for recreational marijuana. The LPCO has been fighting a legal battle during the past few months against a recently enacted election "reform" bill, which has a number of constitutional, statutory, and basic implementation flaws.

Georgia

Two election victories

The Libertarian Party of Georgia added another member to the Elected Libertarian Club with November municipal elections, re-elected an existing member, and had a third enter into a runoff as Walter Reynolds joined the Milledgeville City Council, Brett Bittner was re-elected to the Marietta City School Board, and longtime elected Libertarian Karen Richardson entered a runoff to be held Dec. 3 to see whether she remains on the Johns Creek City Council.

Reynolds won his race without opposition, after qualifying ended without the incumbent running for re-election, and he's already working closely with the Central State Hospital's local Redevelopment Authority on a mission to bring private business to make use of the now abandoned State Hospital and its 2,000 acres of developed infrastructure after the state literally

abandoned the project. Bittner won re-election without a runoff in a three-way contest with 57 percent of the vote.

November also provided an announcement of the 2014 state convention date and venue. The Libertarian Party of Georgia will hold its annual state convention on March 7–8, 2014, in Marietta, Ga., at the Theatre in the Square and various area establishments for meals and social events. Registration is live at: lpgeorgia.com/convention

In October, the party organized its largest outreach event of the year at the fifth Atlanta PRIDE Festival, with its best ever results. The crowd was estimated to have 250,000–300,000 in attendance. This year had the greatest number of visitors to the market booth — hundreds of whom took the World's Smallest Political Quiz, with nearly two thirds scoring in the Libertarian quadrant — the most Libertarian volunteers to ever take part, the most Libertarian parade participants, the most contact data collected by Libertarian volunteers, and the highest amount in contributions in all of the years of participation.

September saw the exit of Doug Harman, who served as chairman since 2012, as his work demands became too much for such a commitment to the party. Assuming the chairman's position was former Vice Chair Doug Craig, who previously served as political director for LP Georgia, and currently serves as the alternate for Region 2 on the LNC. The Executive Committee filled the then-vacant vice chair role with former Flowery Branch City Councilwoman Amanda Swafford after a unanimous vote at the November meeting.

Illinois

Statewide slate nominated

The Libertarian Party of Illinois held its annual convention September 20–22, with the theme "The Roots of Liberty." In keeping with that theme, informative and inspiring presentations were provided by top-of-the-line libertarian speakers Radley Balko, Steve Horwitz, Robert Murphy, Mary Ruwart, Dianna Visek, and Tom Woods.

The convention opened with fun on Friday night: libertarian karaoke led by Robert Murphy and Convention Chair Ken Prazak. Attendees also enjoyed an educational session on nullification with Lee Wrights and Thomas Hill, which included a partial showing of the documentary *Nullification*, produced by the Foundation for

a Free Society. A spirited debate was also held on foreign policy between two Libertarians and two libertarian-leaning guests.

A live auction on Saturday night, along with a heartfelt fundraising appeal, drew solid donations. With the spectacular speaker lineup boosting attendance, the 2013 Illinois Convention was not only motivational, but also a financial success.

On Sunday, the party got down to business, nominating statewide candidates for the 2014 election. Sharon Hansen, a bed-and-breakfast entrepreneur, is running for U.S. Senate to unseat Dick Durbin. Twice-experienced candidate Chad Grimm is running for governor. The candidate for comptroller is Julie Fox, a tireless activist for liberty and, once again, the only CPA in her race. Other candidates include Alex Cummings for lieutenant governor; Matt Skopek, Chair of the LP Illinois, for treasurer; Chris Michel for secretary of state; and Ben Koysl for attorney general.

In local activism, the Fox Valley Libertarian Party (FVLP) has caused quite a stir in the community of East Dundee, where the village board was planning to subsidize the Anvil Club, a local private supper club, to the tune of hundreds of thousands of dollars through tax increment financing. An East Dundee board member who attends FVLP meetings tipped off the chapter. The FVLP charged into action with petitions and weekly protests, earning excellent coverage by local newspapers, as well as community support. According to FVLP president Julie Fox, "We have yet to talk to anyone during our protests who is in favor of this subsidy once it's explained." A final vote has yet to be taken, so the FVLP is urging the community to contact village board members and voice their opposition.

Indiana

LPIN denounces anti-gay marriage law

The Libertarian Party of Indiana denounced the efforts of a northern Indiana tea party group after news reports described the group's support of the passage of HJR-6 as a traditionally libertarian approach to politics. The LPIN strongly opposes HJR-6, Indiana's proposed constitutional amendment attacking personal relationships.

In a news report published Wednesday by WTHR in Indianapolis, Kosciusko County Silent NO More President Monica

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AFFILIATE NEWS AND EVENTS

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Boyer explained that her group's support of HJR-6 is based on religious freedoms.

"There is nothing libertarian about the position this group is taking," noted LPIN State Chairman Dan Drexler. "Our position is clearly stated and has not changed over the years. Government does not have the authority to define, license or restrict personal relationships. Consenting adults should be free to choose their own sexual practices and personal relationships. Where others have allowed government to insert itself, we must demand equality under the law. Until we have the legislative support to remove government from intervening in personal relationships altogether, we must stand firm in our opposition to this amendment and any similar future efforts. Our Constitution was written to keep government in check. It should never be used as a tool to restrict individual freedoms, including religious freedoms."

The Libertarian Party of Indiana strongly supports the efforts of Freedom Indiana, a grassroots organization of citizens and businesses opposed to HJR-6.

The Libertarian Party welcomes Indiana state Sen. Richard Young, Jr. lending his legislative efforts to our longstanding mission to allow local farmers to make money growing hemp, a native crop.

We concur with Young's assessment: "Hemp and hemp products can be recycled and are 100 percent biodegradable. Hemp can be grown as alternative to subsidy-dependent crops like corn and soy, and can provide an alternative safeguard should the market for traditional crops decline. Its potential to replace pulp paper could make Indiana hemp a staple of modern manufacturing, and could lead to a reduction in global deforestation."

If Democrats and Republicans would like to join the wave of the future, they should adopt another long-held Libertarian platform plank and decriminalize marijuana for adults.

In other candidate news, Andrew Horning has announced his run for the Indiana 8th District congressional seat currently held by Dr. Larry Buschon (R). Horning most recently ran for U.S. Senate, winning nearly 6 percent (145,000) votes in a three-way race.

Iowa

Iowa LP hosts candidate training session

The Libertarian Party of Iowa hosted a candidate training session in Newton, Iowa on Oct. 26. Richard Campagna, 2004 LP vice presidential nominee and 2002 LPIA lieutenant governor nominee, started the morning with an inspirational speech. The 23 people in attendance heard words of advice from Nick Taiber, current Cedar Falls City Council member, and from a panel of Libertarians who had previously run a campaign. Each attendee received a candidate training handbook. One of the highlights of the day was playing "Who's Driving" as shown in the picture to the right. Thanks to LP Political Director Carla Howell for teaching the game at the State Leadership Alliance Conference that was held in Denver this past May.

Other Iowa news: Nick Taiber won re-election to his seat as Cedar Falls City Council At-Large. Taiber is doing a great job of explaining his Libertarian-based position on issues while providing good small-government service to his constituents. Keep up the good work, Nick!

Kansas

Aiming for major-party status in 2014

The Libertarian Party of Kansas has been hard at work systematically executing its strategy developed at the LPKS 2013 convention. The focus of all actions is to grow the party and support candidates in an effort to achieve major-party status in the Nov. 2014 fall election. The party is searching for leaders to create county LP groups, growing its database of contacts and volunteers, upgrading its website, improving its communication with state members, planning for future fundraisers, and attracting and identifying better-qualified candidates a year in advance.

One of our goals was to create a governor candidate search team, with a plan to find multiple candidates to compete for the nomination. We have found two fantastic candidates in Tresa McAlhaney and Keen Umbehr. Both have active campaign



The Libertarian Party of Iowa plays "Who's Driving?" This game, created by LP Political Director Carla Howell, teaches activists how to stay on the offense in cutting government.

staffs and are traveling the state at county meet-and-greets.

2013 has seen a decrease of 40,000 registered voters in Kansas. While the Rs and Ds have seen losses of tens of thousands of registered voters, the LPKS has had a net gain of 1,000 new members since the 2012 election.

The Kansas party is also active on important issues. We will be active in the 2014 legislative session giving testimony on a variety of bills, and we have announced a new lawsuit through the newly organized Johnson County Open Carry Group to renew the fight to overturn the open-carry firearm ban in Prairie Village. If this is successful it will set the stage for the effort spearheaded by the LPKS to pass new legislation overturning all remaining open carry firearm bans throughout the state.

Michigan

Annual Libbyfest yields liberty insight

Author and professor Dr. Richard Eberling gave an inspiring speech at the Libertarian Party of Michigan's annual Libbyfest in East Lansing on Saturday, Nov. 16.

Eberling, professor at Norwood University, spoke of the dangerous effect that the war on terrorism has had on our liberties. Obamacare is just one example of the many decisions we now allow our government to make for us, Eberling explained.

"Individuals are no longer planning

for themselves, but instead the government must now design a single plan for everyone, and to which and within which everyone in the society must fit and be made to conform ... yet, in a free society each individual makes his own plans about the goals he decides to set for his life and how best to use the income and resources at his disposal to achieve them."

Eberling, recognized as one of the leading members of the Austrian school of economics, has written several books, including *Liberty, Security, and the War on Terrorism*.

Libby Awards

The Libertarian party of Michigan also awarded three "Libby Awards" at the Libbyfest.

- Leonard Schwartz, vice-chairman of the Oakland County Libertarians, won the Spokesperson for Liberty Award. Leonard is "a member of the community whose patriotism and conviction have inspired contributions to the cause of Liberty."
- Rodger Young, chairman of the Livingston Libertarians, received the Producer of Liberty Award. Rodger is "a dedicated, behind-the-scenes Libertarian whose quiet labors over the years exemplifies the backbone of the LP."
- Karl Jackson, membership director of Oakland County, received the Promoter of Liberty Award. Karl is "a Libertarian whose efforts have done the most to promote the LP and Libertarian principles."

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AFFILIATE News And Events

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Montana

Successful outreach throughout the state

Here in Montana, the University of Montana College Libertarians are meeting again. College Libertarian president and ASUM Sen. Ryan Hazen and others in the group collected signatures from University of Montana students to remain a qualified student organization, pending all the paperwork. Thanks to all of our students working for liberty. On Oct. 29, the UM College Libertarians were in a debate with college Democrats and Republicans, with a story in the campus newspaper. The MTLP also helped collect signatures at Montana State University during Catapolooza (new student orientation). Thanks to Aaron Strausbaugh and Frank Wendt for their hard work.

In Missoula, the Missoula County LP had a booth at the Missoula HempFest. They were the only political party booth at the event. The Missoula County LP came out against a 1.7 million Transportation mill levy, that passed. The group also had a small rally at the Missoula County Courthouse for the 2013 Constitution Day.

The MTLP and the Missoula County LP had an entry in the University of Montana Homecoming parade. The parade is one of the largest in Montana, with some 25,000 people lined up along the route. Our public access television show "Libertarians Live — 'Other People's Pockets'" continues on the Missoula Community Access Television. Our show of Sept. 5 celebrated Jury Rights Day. Remember that our Founding Fathers saw juries as another check on abusive government. Libertarians Live is always looking for more volunteers, if you want to learn the art of television. The MTLP also opposed changing the Billings City Charter to allow things like parking commissions. The issue was defeated by the voters of Billings. Some of the more successful down-towns in Montana have neither parking commissions nor parking meters.

Next year is our statewide elections, with U.S. Senate, U.S. House, Montana Supreme Court, legislative seats, and local county elections. We will be also opposing LR 127, a Top-Two Primary ballot



University of Montana College Libertarians

measure, which will come before voters in the 2014 general election. The 2013 legislative Republican majority placed the issue on the ballot because Libertarians held the balance of power in both the 2012 U.S. Senate race and governor's race. The Montana Republican party wants to eliminate the competition, namely the Libertarians. If passed LR 127 would only allow the top two candidates to proceed to the general election, so we could see two candidates of the same party in the general. Voters wouldn't have their views expressed. We encourage folks to run for office and support the idea of liberty.

New York

LPNY raises money for private charities

It's not just about running candidates in New York. Various chapters throughout the state have also raised money for private charities.

In fact, the Queens County LP has been at it for a dozen years, with its annual toy drive every December. Since 2001, New York City Libertarians have regularly contributed toys, dolls, stuffed animals, and picture books to deserving children.

This year, New York Libertarians delivered toys and other gifts to QSAC, a school in Whitestone, New York, with 77 autistic and intellectually challenged children.

In the state's opposite corner, Batavia City Council at large candidates Jim Rosenbeck and Lisa Whitehead, along with Genesee County Legislature candidate Robert Brown, were the guest bartenders at The Ten Cent Millionaire Pub in Batavia. They donated all tips that night to the Salvation Army.

New York Libertarians prove that charity is truly meaningful when voluntarily given without government coercion.

North Carolina

Search for new ED, new website pending

Executive Director Jason Melehani has resigned to take advantage of a professional opportunity, and the LPNC Executive Committee has appointed a search committee to find a replacement.

LPNC has a new website ready to launch, as well as a new content management system. However, the death of the owner of our website has slowed the transition to NationBuilder for a few weeks, as we work through details with his estate.

Our Facebook page now has more than 5,000 likes! We're closing in on the Republicans and Democrats. Please go to our page, LPofNC, and like us.

On Saturday, Nov. 15, S4L held its most successful Regional Conference ever with around 225 attendees. Alex Mathews, director of university relations, and Alex Vuchnich, vice-chair, attended.

On Monday, Nov. 18, the Davidson College student Libertarian group sponsored, with other student groups, four of their state House and Senate representatives. The discussion was lively, with two Democrats and two Republicans. More than 100 were in attendance.

Dr. Jim Lark has been kind enough to speak on North Carolina campuses twice recently, at Appalachian State University and Davidson College. We very much appreciate Dr. Lark's efforts in NC.

For 2012 the LPNC received more than \$100,000 of funding through the NC Public Political Finance Fund (PPFF). In 2014, we will receive \$0, as the General Assembly discontinued the funding. Ideologically, this is fine. Financially, it is terrible. However, we plan to use this as an impetus to initiate a long-term fundraising strategy.

Convention dates have not been set, but late March or early April is targeted.

In November elections, Andrea Boyer garnered more than 15 percent in a race for Woodfin alderman. Although unsuccessful, she ran an efficient and effective campaign and the entire state learned from the process. Also, a special thanks to Gary Shoemaker, her campaign manager.

Ohio

Fighting for third-party ballot access

The LPO filed suit in U.S. District Court after Ohio Senate Bill 193 was passed, which would remove

all minor parties from the ballot and take away their party primaries in 2014. The bill was introduced on Sept. 19, the same day that Libertarian candidate Charlie Earl announced that he intended to run for governor. The LPO put up a valiant fight during hearings at the statehouse. Key testimony and work against the "John Kasich Re-election Protection Act" was given by Communications Director Aaron Harris, Political Director Bob Bridges, State Chair Kevin Knedler, 83rd House District candidate Greg Norris, governor candidate Charlie Earl, and many others. There was no testimony in favor of the Senate bill.

Representing the LPO is attorney Mark Brown, who has been involved in three LPO ballot access challenges in Ohio since 2008. The LPO is confident that it will prevail in court, and expects a ruling by the end of December. This is important, because the filing deadline for candidates to be in the 2014 primary is Feb. 5, 2014. That just happens to be the date that the new law would be taking effect. For more information, contact Aaron Harris or Kevin Knedler at news@lpo.org.

Two new division directors begin work with the LPO. Nathan Eberly has accepted the director position in the Field Development Division. He is tasked with the development of future members, candidates, and county affiliates. Brian Holaday has accepted the director position in the IT Division. Brian's background will enable him to help the LPO develop a new website, improve its communication, and utilize a new database.

Texas

State convention, other important events

For Libertarians in Texas, there are several important events coming up and we want you there!

The state convention will be held April 11–13 at the Mayborn Convention center in Temple. The theme will be focused on the youth liberty movement, and will feature the founder of Students for Liberty, Alexander McCobin. There will be contested nominations for the state general election ballot and for party leadership. It will mark the completion of Pat Dixon's 10 years as state chair, and will be his final event in that capacity. Delegates will cast important votes on rule and platform changes for the state party. Above all, it will be a lot of fun with great speak-

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LP Wisconsin activists John Gatewood, Robert Burke, Paul Ehlers, Jon Augelli, and David Ayala maintain a booth at the Great Midwest Marijuana Harvest Festival.

Affiliate News

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ers, breakout sessions, and socializing. Look for registration information soon at LPTexas.org

For delegates, the process starts Tuesday, March 11, at precinct conventions. This is where delegates must appear to become credentialed. The voting begins at county conventions on Saturday, March 15. For candidates running in districts (such as U.S. Congress) that span multiple counties, nominations occur at district conventions a week later on Saturday, March 22. The final nominations for statewide office occur at the state convention.

To help candidates, a candidate handbook is available at <https://www.lp-texas.org/candidate-handbook>.

We believe the “Launch 2014” campaign will be the best ever. You can be involved in helping make important decisions and provide support. It will be a lot of fun and we look forward to having you on our team as we grow the Libertarian Party of Texas!

Wisconsin

Successful outreach at marijuana festival

The Libertarian Party of Wisconsin again had an information booth at the 43rd annual Great Midwest Marijuana Harvest Festival in Madison, Wisconsin in October. In addition to offering literature, this year the LPWI featured Libertarian cartoonist David Ayala, who drew caricatures of festival goers.

Charles Earl in Ohio

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makers are trying to change the rules in the middle of the game and knock LP candidates off the ballot with a bill dubbed the “John Kasich Re-election Protection Act.”

S.B. 193 would require the LP and other challenger parties to get tens of thousands of signatures in a short time period while the Democrats and Republicans are free to focus on campaigning.

Libertarians are fighting back. Libertarian attorney Mark Brown filed suit on Nov. 8 to strike S.B. 193.

“Our legal team expects that the court will move quickly on this issue since we are now less than a year away from the general election and almost two months before the Feb. 5, 2014, deadline for candidates to file for the 2014 primary election,” said LPO Executive Committee Chair Kevin Knedler.

Without court action, S.B. 193 is slated to take full effect just before Feb. 5, 2014.

In addition to imposing absurd signature requirements on challenger political parties, S.B. 193 takes away their right to a primary election as guaranteed by the Ohio Constitution. It also effectively limits challenger parties and can-

didates to about 90 days of campaigning before the 2014 general election.

On Wednesday, Nov. 13, the Libertarian Party of Ohio won a legal challenge in federal court in a voting rights case that could signal how the same court might rule on SB 193. The court granted an injunction against enforcement of SB 47, a measure enacted in July banning any Ohio group or candidate from using out-of-state signature gatherers for petitioning efforts.

“We don’t think it’s a coincidence that they passed the unconstitutional restrictions on petitioning a couple of months before introducing S.B. 193,” said Knedler. “We certainly hope the court is seeing this clear pattern of political suppression from the same people and will block S.B. 193.”

The LPO has lobbied the state legislature for fair election law since 2006, when federal courts in *LPO v. Blackwell* struck down a law concerning “minor” political parties. Since then, the LPO has won two more federal court fights over ballot access.

Ohio was one of four states where the GOP tried and failed to knock Libertarian Gov. Gary Johnson off the ballot in 2012.

The latest developments in the LPO’s battle to maintain ballot access are being posted at its website: www.lpo.org.

Libertarians rising

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youth voter turnout.

2014 will be the LP’s best year ever to advance liberty through elections by placing Libertarian candidates on every ballot possible and by offering Libertarian solutions to America’s pressing problems.

While the popularity of libertarianism rises, Democrats’ and Republicans’ favorability ratings are at their lowest levels ever. More trouble lies ahead for the old parties as they divide on major issues.

Democrats and Republicans divide

The Democratic Party is losing support within its ranks both from hard-left socialists and moderate Democratic voters.

The left wing of the party is angry with Obama’s blatantly imperialist foreign policy. They abhor his close ties to bailed-out banks. They feel betrayed by his mass surveillance policies and “kill lists” of alleged terrorists, granting himself the power to assassinate an American citizen without trial.

At the same time, Obamacare is creating divisions within the Democratic Party. Moderate Democratic voters are rejecting the program, put off by its shaky launch. They feel betrayed by Obama, who promised they could

keep their existing insurance plans and their choice of doctors. As their health care premiums and out-of-pocket costs skyrocket, they’re waking up to the reality that the government’s “Affordable Care Act” is anything but affordable.

Republicans are divided as well.

Tea party members and activists inspired by Ron Paul are attempting to move the party in a libertarian direction. They want lower government spending, a stable dollar, and an end to Obamacare. Despite being spurned by GOP leaders during the 2012 election, many continue to battle for influence within the party. Republican candidates stand to lose their support in crucial races.

At the same time, social conservatives continue to push for abortion regulations, hardline immigration policies, and bans on gay marriage. Even though their ranks are shrinking, they remain a sizeable force within the GOP.

Divisions within both parties will create turmoil in primary elections in 2014, leaving Democrats and Republicans with damaged candidates and weakened general election support.

Meanwhile, Big Government special interests advocating more government spending and more government debt remain the primary driving forces within both the Republican and Democratic parties, opposed by a growing majority of voters across the political spectrum.

The Libertarian opportunity

In 2014, Libertarian candidates can take advantage of the emerging libertarian movement and the vulnerabilities of Democrats and Republicans by running on bold, small-government solutions that appeal to young voters, to disenfranchised factions within both old parties, and to the 22 percent of Americans who lean libertarian.

Bold proposals to remove government regulations and wipe Obamacare off the books may win the support of moderate and fiscally conservative voters more than ever before.

Proposals to end drug prohibition, legalize gay marriage, and discontinue deadly drone attacks may convince disaffected Democrat-leaning voters to opt for Libertarian candidates instead.

Libertarian solutions that legalize medical marijuana, end mass surveillance, cut government overspending, cut taxes, bring troops home, and halt growing government debt can appeal to voters across the political spectrum, especially the 22 percent of voters who lean, or who are, libertarian.

The more that Libertarians who run for office expose the old parties for the high-spending, controlling, warring, Big Government advocates that they are, and give voters a choice for much less government — the better they will fare, both on Election Day and in the collective consciousness of Americans.

Breakthrough coverage

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former governor Tommy Thompson, won 11 percent of the vote in Wisconsin.

Rob Sarvis ran his campaign for governor on a mix of fiscal and personal liberty issues. He vowed to root out crony capitalism by cutting subsidies, ending favorable tax and regulatory treatment of particular companies or industries, and “eliminating all regulations that insulate market incumbents from competition.” He also ran to “lead the fight ... to recognize same-sex marriages,” legalize marijuana, and restore Fourth Amendment rights by reversing the militarization of law enforcement and restricting the government’s mass surveillance.

When asked of lessons learned from his campaign, Sarvis said, “For one, just show up.” He noted that, once you get on the ballot, you never know when you’re going to find yourself faced with an opportunity.

The stage had been set for an exciting campaign when Sarvis’s team overcame the first hurdle: collecting more than 10,000 voter signatures to meet the state’s difficult petitioning requirements. His campaign’s success made him one of only three governor candidates on the ballot.

Soon thereafter, the campaign between his opponents, governor-elect Democrat Terry McAuliffe and Republican Ken Cuccinelli, became ugly. Both were embroiled in scandals, and both ran non-stop negative ads attacking the other.

But Sarvis and LaBeaume did much more than just “show up.” They campaigned full-time at breakneck speed through Election Day, and lined up Sarvis to appear at more than 82 campaign events.

The campaign drew national attention, as Virginia was one of only two states (along with New Jersey) running elections for governor or state legislature in 2013.

John LaBeaume, a long-time Libertarian and political strategist, lent his



Robert Sarvis
LP candidate
for VA governor



John LaBeaume
Sarvis campaign
manager

When asked of lessons learned from his campaign, Sarvis said, “For one, just show up.” He noted that, once you get on the ballot, you never know when you’re going to find yourself faced with an opportunity.

media expertise learned during a stint as a reporter for the *Washington Examiner*. He built a media list for the campaign, issued weekly press releases and campaign advisories, kept in regular contact with the media, stayed positive, and arranged daily campaign events and interviews.

“Having a candidate who could talk in depth on policy issues was a huge asset for the campaign,” said LaBeaume, referring to Sarvis’s background as a small business entrepreneur and as an economist who earned his master’s degree at George Mason University.

The Sarvis campaign was especially attractive to young voters. An exit poll conducted by Edison Research showed that Sarvis won 15 percent of voters age 18–29.

“Running on a balanced libertarian theme of ‘open minded and open for business’ worked,” said LaBeaume. “And we didn’t run away from the word Libertarian.”

Sarvis’s success was aided by Cuccinelli’s social conservative agenda, un-

popular among most Virginia voters and young voters in particular. It stood in stark contrast to Sarvis’s advocacy of personal freedoms, including marriage equality. In ads and interviews, Sarvis cited his personal experience both as the offspring and the husband of interracial marriages.

This endeared Sarvis to mainstream media while the conservative media, perceiving him as a threat to Republican Cuccinelli, frequently attacked him.

“The conservative media was not our friend. They believe Libertarians should be part of their coalition — or shut up,” noted LaBeaume.

In the end, Cuccinelli boosted his vote total by shifting his focus to the failed launch of Obamacare during the last week of the campaign, closing in on McAuliffe’s 10-plus-point lead in the polls in mid-October. Cuccinelli finished with 45.5 percent of the vote, just 2.5 percent behind McAuliffe’s 48.0 percent. Sarvis beat the margin between the two candidates by more than four percentage points.

The prospect of Sarvis causing Cuccinelli to lose provoked a flurry of attacks on Sarvis from Republican allies and media pundits before and after Election Day. But several analyses suggest that Sarvis may have taken more votes from the Democrat, as well as a sizable portion from those who would not have voted at all without him in the race.

The cause of Cuccinelli’s loss may lie more in lack of GOP support, both from the party’s key backers and from the rank-and-file.

The National GOP and the state’s Chamber of Commerce spent a net of \$3 million less for Cuccinelli than they did for Republican incumbent Gov. Bob McDonnell in 2009, leaving his campaign unable to run ads in the crucial final weeks of the election.

But perhaps more costly to Cuccinelli was the lackluster support of disaffected

small-government Republicans. Many of them became disillusioned in May when Republican Gov. McDonnell broke his campaign pledge to never raise taxes.

Gov. McDonnell signed into law a transportation bill that included the largest tax increase in Virginia’s history. Almost half the Republicans in the state legislature voted for the tax increase, which raised the state sales tax, raised local sales taxes, and raised gasoline taxes.

Although Cuccinelli opposed the bill, he refused to pledge to repeal it if elected, thus helping to brand the Virginia GOP as tax hikers.

The Sarvis campaign got a boost from Purple PAC, an independent super PAC headed by former Cato Institute president and founder Ed Crane, which spent approximately \$300,000 on TV ads supporting Sarvis. The Sarvis campaign raised and spent more than \$200,000 on its own, which was used to get on the ballot, to buy and ship yard signs throughout the state, and to place TV ads in Virginia regions where Sarvis was getting his strongest support.

A Sarvis ad that ran during a debate between the Democrat and Republican prompted a *Washington Post* column to declare, “Sarvis wins the Virginia gubernatorial debate.”

Fundraising for the campaign was unusually strong by Libertarian standards, but Sarvis was nonetheless massively outspent by his opponents. Still, it was enough to make a notable impact and to win votes cost-effectively. The Sarvis campaign spent just \$0.81 per vote, while Democrat McAuliffe and Republican Cuccinelli spent \$30.77 and \$18.91 per vote, respectively (as of campaign finance reports through Oct. 23).

“Many great volunteers helped to make this campaign possible,” Sarvis said. “I’m especially grateful to John LaBeaume, who was indispensable, and to Chris Taylor, Joe Enroughty, Josh McCullough, Juanita Billings, and Josef Storm.”

Latest federal budget deal

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“sequester,” a pathetically small reduction in future government overspending;

- and raise taxes, including an increase in TSA fees that they will tack onto the cost of airline tickets.

“Why not grab every tax dollar they can, they figure, and nail down a budget during the holidays that will avoid the backlash of a possible government ‘shutdown’ in January?” Neale asked.

“Why not pass a two-year — rather than a one-year

— budget deal, Democrats and Republicans figure, so they don’t have to deal with prickly budget negotiations next fall, right before many of them are up for re-election?” he continued.

High government overspending is killing the economy, killing jobs, and devaluing the dollar — along with the savings and earnings of every American.

High taxes, including the hidden tax of inflation that results from Democrats’ and Republicans’ deficit spending, is depleting Americans’ wealth and is sending more American jobs overseas.

Republicans who pretend to oppose Obamacare

are letting it fly, refusing to defund it. If left unchecked, Obamacare will force more small businesses to close; bar Americans from needed health care, leaving diseases untreated; raise health insurance premiums; and raise out-of-pocket costs. The unaffordable burdens of Obamacare may well deal the final, fatal blow to America’s status as the world’s leading economy.

“An ‘outrage’ does not begin to describe the level of wanton, self-serving, fiscally irresponsible, and heartless behavior of today’s Democratic and Republican politicians in Congress,” Neale said. “There is only one way to stop them from destroying the economy: Vote Libertarian.”

Libertarian Solution: Expand marketplace of health care practitioners

By Michael H. Wilson
Editor, *Washington Libertarian*

Historically, occupational licensing laws and other regulations have deprived midwives, denturists, chiropractors, and others of an opportunity to practice. This deprives patients of a choice and denies workers their right to practice in their professions.

Occupational licensing laws are some of the last Jim Crow-era laws, serving to protect professions from competition, rather than protecting the interests of patients.

Republicans running for office in 2014 will attack their Democratic opponents' support of Obamacare, but will offer no concrete solutions to expand health freedom. One of the ways that Libertarian candidates can distinguish themselves from their Republican rivals is by proposing to reduce government authority over who may or may not practice medicine.

Repeal occupational licensing laws that restrict advance nurse practitioners: Seventeen states and Washington, D.C., allow advance nurse practitioners to set up their own practices independent of doctors. In the other states, they are required to be supervised by a doctor or work in collaboration with one. Repealing the laws in the states that restrict Advance Nurse Practitioners will give the patients more choices and save tax dollars.

Repeal occupational licensing laws that restrict direct entry midwives: Nurse midwives are recognized in all states, but direct entry midwives, who did not study nursing,

Occupational licensing laws are some of the last Jim Crow-era laws, serving to protect professions from competition, rather than protecting the interests of patients.

are prohibited from practicing in many states. Direct entry midwives may have learned this craft through an apprenticeship or by attending a college that trains midwives. Twelve states prohibit direct entry midwives and in the others the right to practice varies. Studies have shown midwives to be as good as doctors — if not better — and less expensive. Midwives would be especially beneficial to Native American and African-American infants whose mortality rates are significantly higher than those of white infants.

Almost 50 percent of births nationwide are paid for by Medicaid, so expanding the opportunities for midwives would save significant tax dollars and result in healthier children. Economist John C. Goodman explains in his book *Priceless* that although the nurses and midwives at Parkland Memorial Hospital in Dallas, Texas, deliver high-quality care at a lower cost, “the infant mortality rate is only half the national average.”

Abolish or privatize the state medical boards: The state medical boards are controlled by the professions. They do little or nothing to protect patients and are a classic example of what is known as regulatory capture.

Repeal the Certificate of Need laws: Thirty-six states have some form of Certificate of Need laws. In many states, Certificate of Need regulations are being used to slow or halt the development of lower-cost alternatives, such as retail health clinics. Retail health clinics offer a low cost alternative to people needing immediate care instead of going to an emergency room. One study suggests that retail clinics save about 80 percent of the costs of an emergency room visit. In jurisdictions where they are allowed, retail health clinics have grown significantly since 2006.

Abolish the FDA: There is no reason that the functions performed by the FDA cannot be carried out by a private organization, such as Consumers Union. Prescription medicine was supposedly originated to protect patients, but in reality it does more to keep costs high and protect the profits of the pharmaceutical industry. We should abolish the need for a prescription. If nothing else, we should let pharmacists prescribe medicine as they did in the past.

If the government didn't manage the health care industry for quality, who would? One good example is the National Committee for Quality Assurance. Founded in 1990, this nonprofit has a large influence in the health care industry. Organizations using the NCQA seal must pass a demanding review and report yearly.

These common-sense solutions would provide people with more choices, cut costs, improve health-care quality, and save tax dollars. They would also create jobs for many qualified practitioners, and greatly increase access to needed health care services.

Rather than accepting the lesser of two evils, stop voting for evil

By R. Lee Wrights
LNC Vice Chair

“Always vote for principle, though you may vote alone, and you may cherish the sweetest reflection that your vote is never lost.” — John Quincy Adams

How long will people continue to fall for this lesser-of-two-evils fiasco? Election after election, evil begets evil. Vote that way and all you ever get is evil. All you can get is evil!

First, both Republicans and Democrats fall into a lesser-of-two-evils trench out of which they never emerge. Then, American voters gobble it up like children do their Halloween candy, accepting evil as okay. And, after it is all said and done, they feel guilty about all the evil in the world; so, they become benevolent benefactors with the money they steal from their fellow citizens, plunging everyone involved into perpetual debt. You see what just a little evil can do to a country? Stop voting for evil!

The worst thing about voting for the “lesser of two evils” is that it actually has the opposite effect of what it's intended to do. Winning candidates don't know, they don't want to know — and, frankly, don't care — why people vote for them. They certainly don't know and don't care how many of the votes they got were so-called protest votes. All they want is enough votes to win. They'll consider all the votes they get as an endorsement of their campaign promises or past performance to claim a “mandate from the people.”

The government you are complaining about right now is a direct result of your voting for the lesser of two evils for generations. The problem is ... too many don't see that their vote is a self-defense device, so they fail to vote. You use it to defend your property and rights. Voting is the difference between ballots and bloodshed. But, when the choice becomes only between Satan and Lucifer, the Devil always wins.

Let me be clear: There is no such thing as a wasted vote! Your vote belongs

to you, and no one else. It doesn't belong to the Republican or Democratic Party, or any party or candidate for that matter. Your vote is your voice; it is one of your unnamed, inalienable rights, the ultimate expression of your right to free speech and self-government. Your vote cannot be wasted, or stolen, or lost — unless you make a decision to waste it.

Now, in defense of the voting for the lesser-of-two-evils strategy, someone cited this as their position:

Republicans are “less evil” than Democrats because they only want a 4 percent increase in spending while the 8 percent spending increases called for by the Democrats are way out of line. What? Do folks really believe some of these things? This fallacy fails miserably for lack of logic and reason.

Spending increases of any kind for a country with the huge national debt Americans carry already is insane! The only thing more absurd is to defend these spending sprees because they are not as extravagant as someone else's. This brand

of evil is better for America somehow? Monkey muffins!

By accepting the lesser of two evils as a legitimate voting strategy, people lock themselves into a perpetual existence of simply accepting evil. Lost is the desire to battle the evil, just do what we can to stop someone else from being more evil than ourselves. How can this be legitimate? How can anyone believe that evil of any sort is acceptable and still expect people to take them seriously? You have already admitted evil is okay with you, and that you will vote for evil every time as long as it is not as evil as someone else. How can you be trusted?

Stop the evil.

Stop wasting your votes on evil people with evil intentions and playing it off like it is just the way things go. Let every politician and political party know, evil is unacceptable! Period! Evil doesn't become good just because it is accepted by a majority! We must be different to make a difference in this country.

Stop voting for evil.

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WHAT'S GOING ON IN YOUR STATE?

A list of Libertarian events can be found online at LP.org/event. You can get more information by visiting the website of your state affiliate. (See a list at LP.org/states.) If there is an event you would like to see listed on the website, please send details to:

EVENTS@LP.ORG

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(202) 333-0008

LPKY takes on Mitch McConnell

By Carla Howell

Libertarian David Patterson is making a bid to unseat U.S. Senate Republican Leader Mitch McConnell.

Patterson, a Harrodsburg police officer, is concerned with federal debt and unfunded liabilities that federal legislators have amassed over the past decade, especially through bank bailouts.

Ken Moellman, long-time Kentucky LP activist, 2011 Libertarian candidate for state treasurer, and current chairman of the state LP, is working behind the scenes to help Patterson make the ballot, lending his years of activism to the cause.

If elected, Patterson vows to fight against all bailouts, legalize industrial hemp, and reduce business regulations. He aims to end the war on drugs, end state marriage, and end the federal government's domestic spying.

Patterson contends that U.S. foreign policy over the past decade has not made Americans safer. He advocates a non-interventionist foreign policy and free trade.

Kentucky has among the worst ballot access laws for third parties. Politicians have given Democrats and Republicans a walk, requiring that they submit a mere two voter signatures to get on the ballot for U.S. Senate. Libertarians must gather 5,000 signatures.

"Our ranks within the LP have swelled



David Patterson
LPKY U.S. Senate
Candidate



Ken Moellman
LPKY State Chair

in the past few years, and I intend to use that network of Libertarians not only to get on the ballot, but to spread the word of my campaign to every county in Kentucky," Patterson said.

Moellman is host of the Internet radio show "Liberty Unbridled" and a spokesperson with Northern Kentucky CHOICE, which opposes bans on smoking.

Patterson and McConnell will probably face Alison Lundergan Grimes, Kentucky's secretary of state, who is expected to win the Democratic nomination for U.S. Senate. Polls show the race between Grimes and McConnell will be tight, giving Grimes a 2 percent edge in October polls. Patterson's race has the potential to swing the election, which will get nationwide media attention from McConnell's status as Senate Republican leader, as well as concerns about whether Democrats or Republicans will control the Senate.

North Dakota LP

...continued from page 5

have candidates, we can put together some money for them."

The importance of running can't be overestimated, Riemers said, because Libertarian Party influence is felt within the political process regardless of the vote totals and long after Election Day is over.

"If nothing else you meet the other

statewide candidates and officeholders from the other major parties at these candidate forums, and you get to understand them a little bit," Riemers said. "They get to know who you are and what you stand for, and you do have an influence on what they think and believe in later years. Even if you don't win, if you come up with some good ideas, your opponents will probably pick up on some of those ideas in later years and carry through on them."

What have you missed recently on LP.org?

- Elected Libertarian councilman campaigned on high city debt
- Poll says majority of Americans aligned with Libertarian Party on foreign policy
- LP to incumbents: Defund Obamacare — or risk voter backlash in 2014
- Three D.C. Libertarians heading for ballot
- 63% of libertarians believe marijuana prohibition will be over within 10 years
- Libertarians win historic court case putting partisan LP Tennessee candidates on ballot
- Three GA Libertarians win elections for school board, city council
- LP Ohio files suit to protect third-party ballot access
- With Libertarian Sarvis — mission accomplished
- CT Libertarian Joshua Katz lands first place in race for Planning Commission
- There's only one way to stop reckless overspending: Vote Libertarian

Media Buzz About the Libertarian Party

"After a dozen-plus years of government mismanagement of the economy, foreign policy, and basic civil liberties under Republicans and Democrats, a record number of Americans rightly believe that the government has too much power. Libertarians are young, intense, principled, and highly engaged in politics. They are going to be around for a long time to come, and in ever-larger numbers."

Time, 10/29/2013

"Of all political organizations, the Libertarian Party deserves praise for its impressive ability to file nearly full slates in practically every election."

Houston Chronicle, 12/12/2013

"The D.C. Libertarian Party seeks to make political process more competitive in the district, which is virtually a one-party jurisdiction with incumbents serving for life."

Examiner.com, 11/22/2013

"The Libertarian Party represents true free enterprise by allowing American citizens to offer their goods and services to each other without government interference. The party also advocates freedom to life, liberty and property in the form of individuals being able to decide for themselves what to eat, drink, smoke, and who to love without fearing criminal penalties."

The West Georgian, 11/4/2013



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Columbus, Ohio

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